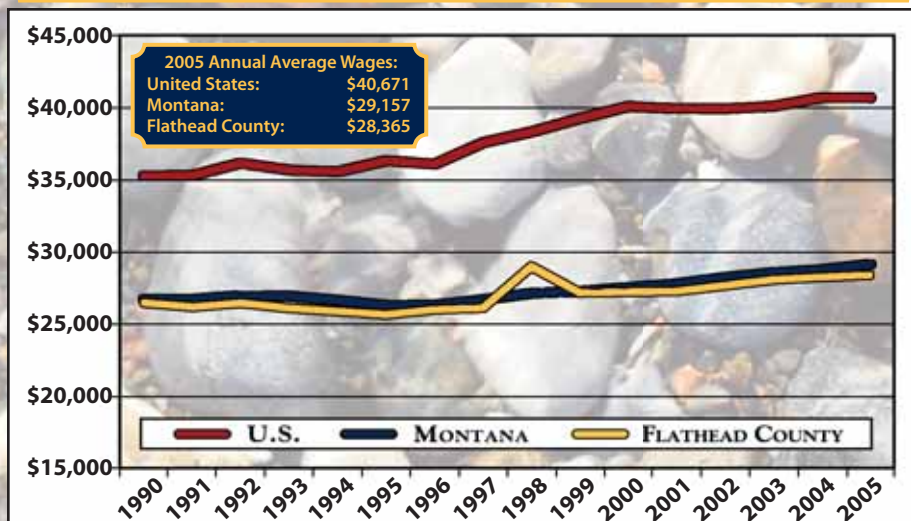


Annual Average Labor Force - Flathead County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2005	43,234	41,317	1,917	4.4%
2004	41,993	39,816	2,177	5.2%
2003	40,656	38,422	2,234	5.5%
2002	40,124	38,062	2,062	5.1%
2001	40,713	38,616	2,097	5.2%
2000	39,331	37,267	2,064	5.2%

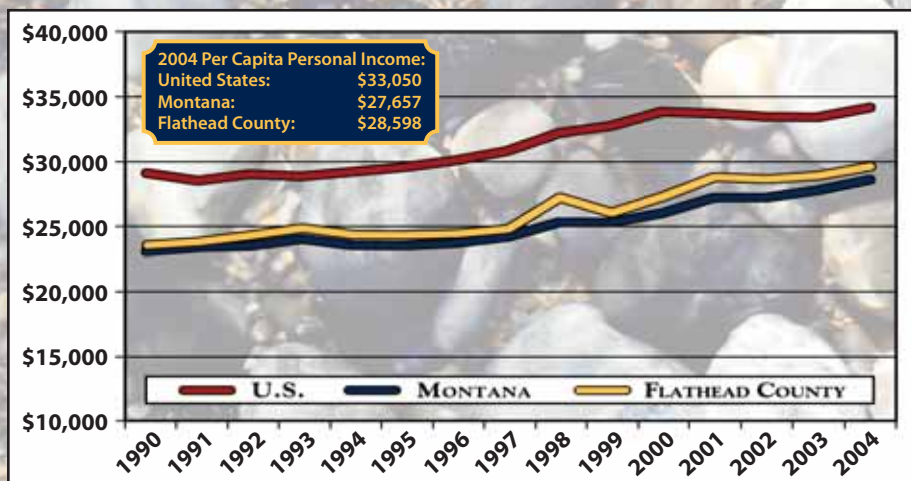
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

Annual Average Wages, 1990 to 2005 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2004 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

Photo courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana

Demographic & Economic Information for Flathead County

Flathead County

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU

Research & Analysis Bureau - Montana Department of Labor & Industry
 P.O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728 - Ph: (406) 444-2430
 or Toll-free: (800) 541-3904 - Fax: (406) 444-2638
 E-mail: webmasterrad@mt.gov - Website: www.ourfactyourfuture.org

CEIC

Census and Economic Information Center - Montana Department of Commerce
 P.O. Box 200505 - Helena, MT 59620-0505 - Ph: (406) 841-2740 - Fax: (406) 841-2731
 E-mail: ceic@mt.gov - Website: www.ceic.mt.gov

FLATHEAD COUNTY

The Flathead Valley is known as one of Montana's tourism hotspots, boasting such attractions as Glacier National Park, Flathead Lake (the largest freshwater lake in the western U.S.), the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the Big Mountain Ski and Summer Resort, and the Blacktail Mountain Ski Area. Flathead County is Montana's third most populous county, with an estimated 83,172 residents in 2005. Kalispell, the county seat, is the state's seventh largest city, with a population estimated at 18,480 in 2005.¹ Other cities and towns in Flathead County include: Bigfork, Columbia Falls, Coram, Evergreen, Hungry Horse, Lakeside, Martin City, Niarada, Somers, and Whitefish.

Flathead County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state, with an estimated population increase of 11.3% from 2000 to 2005. It is also home to the three fastest growing cities in Montana: Whitefish (24.3% growth), Kalispell (22.7%), and Columbia Falls (20.8%).

Retail Trade is the number one industry subsector in Flathead County, employing 5,634 people in 2005. Other significant subsectors include Health Care & Social Assistance (with 4,457 employees), Accommodation & Food Services (4,456), and Construction (3,714). In 2005, the fastest growing subsectors of Flathead County's economy included Administrative Support & Waste Services (up 22.5% from 2004), Construction (up 16.8%), Wholesale Trade (up 16.6%), and Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (up 15.2%).²

¹U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

²Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program

Resources for Flathead County

Chambers of Commerce

Bigfork Chamber
P. O. Box 237
Bigfork, Montana 59911
(406) 837-5888, www.bigfork.org

Columbia Falls Chamber
P. O. Box 312
Columbia Falls, Montana 59912
(406) 892-2072
www.columbiafallschamber.com

Kalispell Chamber
15 Depot Park
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 758-2800
www.kalispellchamber.com

Lakeside-Somers Chamber
P. O. Box 177
Lakeside, Montana 59922
(406) 844-3715
www.lakesidesomers.org

Whitefish Chamber
520 E. 2nd St.
Whitefish, MT 59937
(406) 862-3501
www.whitefishchamber.org

Economic Development

City of Kalispell Community Development Department
P. O. Box 1997, Kalispell, MT 59903
(406) 758-7740,
www.kalispell.com/community

Flathead Regional Business Center
P. O. Box 1879, Kalispell, MT 59903,
(406) 758-6200,
wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/kalispell/bdtkv7/read.html

Flathead Economic Development Authority
490 W. Reserve Dr. Suite B, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 257-7711
www.dobusinessinmontana.com

Kalispell Small Business Development Center
15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901,
(406) 758-2802
www.kalispellsmallbusiness.com

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
2 Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901,
(406) 756-5271
www.score.org/explore_score.html

Newspapers

Bigfork Eagle
P. O. Box 406
Bigfork, MT 59911
(406) 837-5131, www.bigfork-eagle.com

Hungry Horse News
P. O. Box 189,
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
(406) 892-2151
www.hungryhorsenews.com

The Daily Inter Lake
727 E. Idaho St.
Kalispell, MT 59904
(406) 755-7000, www.dailyinterlake.com

Whitefish Pilot
P. O. Box 488
Whitefish, MT 59937
(406) 862-3505 www.whitefishpilot.com

Job Service Workforce Center

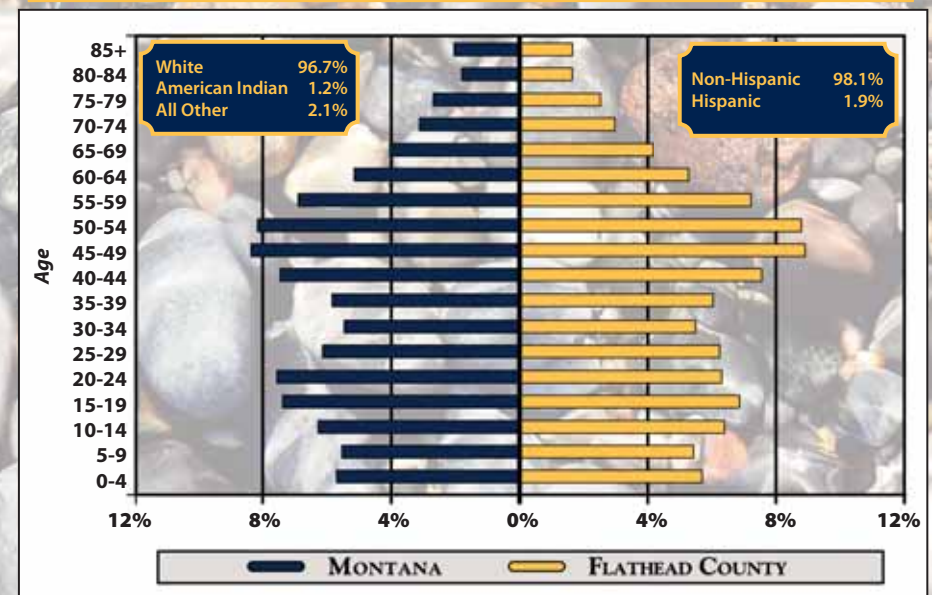
Flathead/Lake County Job Service
P. O. Box 1879, Kalispell, MT 59903
Phone: 406-758-6200
wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/kalispell

Population for Flathead County & Related Areas

Geography	Total Population					
	Census	Estimates				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Montana	902,195	906,098	910,395	917,885	926,920	935,670
Flathead County	74,471	76,100	77,449	79,435	81,114	83,172
Columbia Falls	3,645	3,759	3,835	3,956	4,174	4,440
Kalispell	14,223	15,511	15,999	16,820	17,423	18,480
Whitefish	5,032	5,860	6,114	6,396	6,738	7,067
Balance of Flathead County	51,571	50,970	51,501	52,263	52,779	53,185

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Flathead County, 2005



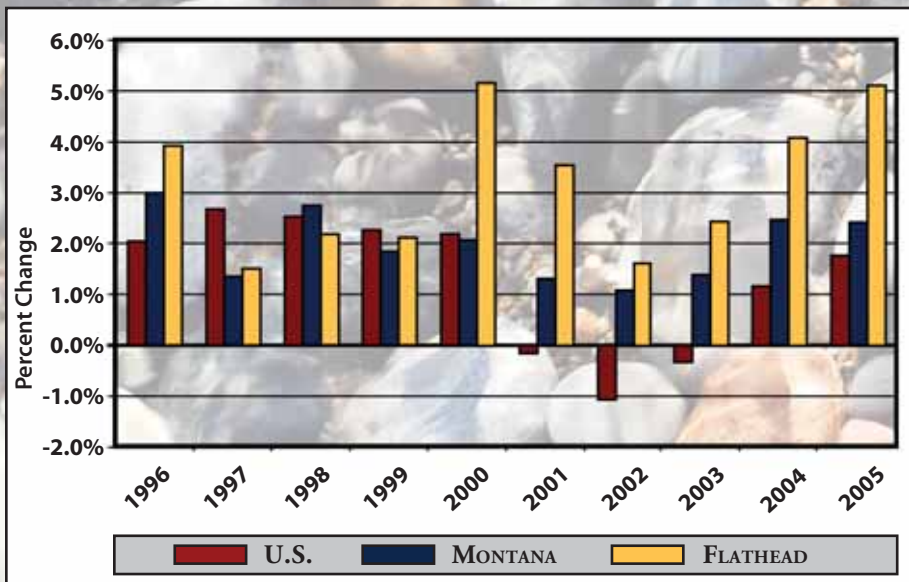
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 Population Estimates

Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Flathead County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	12.6%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	30.6%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	27.4%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	7.0%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	16.1%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	4.3%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	1.6%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	0.4%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Percent Change in Employment: 1996 to 2005 U.S., Montana, and Flathead County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Top 20 Private Employers in Flathead County (Based on 2nd Quarter 2006 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
Big Mountain Ski Resort	6	Lowe's	6
Brendan House Skilled Nursing	6	National Flood Services	6
Columbia Falls Aluminum	6	North Valley Hospital	6
Daily Inter Lake	6	Plum Creek Timber Co.	9
Flathead Electric	6	Semitoole Inc	8
Glacier Bank	6	Smith's Food & Drug	6
Healthcenter Northwest	6	Super 1 Foods	6
Immanuel Lutheran Home	6	Teletech	8
Kalispell Regional Medical Center	9	Wal-Mart	7
L C Staffing Service	7	Workplace Inc.	8

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW) This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

Agricultural Statistics - Flathead County

Farms

Farms: (number)	1,075
Land in farms (acres)	234,861
Average size of farms (acres)	218
Farms by size: (number)	
Less than 1,000 acres	1,030
1,000 acres or more	45
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)	
Less than \$100,000	1,006
\$100,000 or more	69
Farms by type of organization: (number)	
Family, Individual, Partnership	1,025
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	50

Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)	
Cattle and calves	14,831
Hogs and pigs	3,344
Sheep and lambs	599
Horses and ponies	3,432
Bison	786
Chickens (layers and broilers)	1,991
Crops Harvested (acres)	
Corn for grain	0
Corn for silage or greenchop	0
Wheat for grain, All	23,874
Winter wheat for grain	(D)
Durum wheat for grain	(D)
Spring wheat for grain	22,454
Barley for grain	12,492
Oats for grain	910
Sunflower seed, All	0
Soybeans for beans	0
Hay, haylage, grass silage	38,968

Operator Demographics

Primary occupation: (number)	
Farming	548
Other	527
Place of residence: (number)	
On farm operated	939
Not on farm operated	136
Years on present farm: (number)	
Less than 10 years	301
10 years or more	774
Age group: (number)	
Under 55 years	520
55 years and over	555
Average age of operators: (number)	55.9

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002
(D) - Not Disclosable

Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2005 - Flathead County

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	4,039	37,619	\$28,365
TOTAL PRIVATE	3,926	33,151	\$27,524
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	89	385	\$41,009
Crop production	14	89	\$43,781
Animal production	10	23	\$22,653
Forestry and logging	52	242	\$44,638
Agriculture & forestry support	13	31	\$18,935
MINING	19	213	\$39,892
Oil and gas extraction	2	*	*
Mining, except oil and gas	16	208	\$39,348
Support activities for mining	1	*	*
UTILITIES	9	196	\$53,423
CONSTRUCTION	805	3,615	\$31,808
Construction of buildings	295	1,093	\$29,693
Heavy and civil engineering construction	57	577	\$41,803
Specialty trade contractors	454	1,945	\$30,034
MANUFACTURING	178	3,190	\$39,765
Food manufacturing	17	165	\$23,193
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	3	*	*
Textile mills	3	12	\$31,285
Textile product mills	3	9	\$11,970
Apparel manufacturing	2	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	3	3	\$25,144
Wood product manufacturing	32	1,507	\$43,352
Printing and related support activities	16	107	\$21,681
Chemical manufacturing	4	9	\$19,640
Plastics & rubber products manufacturing	3	10	\$21,084
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	5	86	\$32,033
Primary metal manufacturing	6	230	\$44,624
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	32	127	\$31,901
Machinery manufacturing	2	*	*
Computer and electronic product mfg	4	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg	2	*	*
Transportation equipment manufacturing	5	38	\$25,439
Furniture and related product mfg	23	106	\$28,150
Miscellaneous manufacturing	13	34	\$19,776
WHOLESALE TRADE	120	991	\$33,938
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	65	498	\$35,397
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	34	433	\$31,490
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	20	60	\$39,468
RETAIL TRADE	489	5,634	\$23,042
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	59	662	\$35,642
Furniture and home furnishings stores	40	253	\$27,959
Electronics and appliance stores	32	266	\$25,568
Building material & garden supply stores	62	853	\$26,472
Food and beverage stores	33	1,057	\$19,693
Health and personal care stores	28	220	\$33,017
Gasoline stations	41	403	\$13,964
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	46	254	\$13,161
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	43	345	\$17,144
General merchandise stores	13	896	\$21,095
Miscellaneous store retailers	75	339	\$16,705

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Nonstore retailers	17	87	\$25,901
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	121	659	\$28,383
Air transportation	8	66	\$23,630
Truck transportation	77	329	\$27,998
Transit and ground passenger transport	11	39	\$9,024
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	5	19	\$24,318
Support activities for transportation	12	76	\$30,568
Couriers and messengers	6	102	\$37,099
Warehousing and storage	1	*	*
INFORMATION	63	625	\$35,724
Publishing industries, except Internet	16	228	\$31,559
Motion picture, sound recording industry	12	56	\$13,568
Broadcasting, except Internet	5	55	\$32,588
Internet publishing and broadcasting	2	*	*
Telecommunications	18	203	\$45,468
ISPs, search portals, & data processing	11	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	188	1,512	\$43,164
Credit intermediation & related activity	76	901	\$40,773
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	33	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	78	529	\$40,443
Funds, trusts, other financial vehicles	1	*	*
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	212	710	\$27,102
Real estate	178	439	\$31,695
Rental and leasing services	32	*	*
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible asset	2	*	*
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	364	1,221	\$35,429
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	11	101	\$47,689
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	210	2,378	\$20,967
Administrative and support services	200	2,267	\$20,655
Waste management and remediation service	11	111	\$27,351
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	30	382	\$23,607
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	285	4,254	\$32,970
Ambulatory health care services	197	1,384	\$43,127
Hospitals	3	1,547	\$35,379
Nursing and residential care facilities	19	915	\$22,055
Social assistance	66	407	\$13,832
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	112	1,238	\$13,514
Performing arts and spectator sports	22	84	\$18,063
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	3	13	\$14,296
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	87	1,141	\$13,171
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	309	4,456	\$12,829
Accommodation	75	1,216	\$17,202
Food services and drinking places	234	3,240	\$11,188
OTHER SERVICES	310	1,387	\$18,427
Repair and maintenance	105	446	\$27,013
Personal and laundry services	49	250	\$13,490
Membership associations & organizations	117	628	\$13,865
Private households	39	64	\$22,701
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	114	4,468	\$34,604
Local Government	59	3,058	\$31,248
State Government	18	574	\$32,732
Federal Government	37	836	\$48,168

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)
 * Data Not Disclosable

The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance.
 (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)